

Jack Payne
Senior Vice President for Agriculture
and Natural Resources
University of Florida

As the University of Florida's senior vice president for agriculture and natural resources since 2010, Jack Payne leads the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. His career as a faculty member and administrator has taken him to five land-grant universities: Penn State, Texas A&M, Utah State, Iowa State, and the University of Florida.

Dr. Payne has long championed the importance of publicly funded science as a leader in the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. As a member of the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly's CREATE-21 Committee, he was a key player in establishing the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the position of chief scientist as part of the 2008 Farm Bill. He also served as chair of APLU's Board on Agricultural Assembly for 2008-2010.

In addition to his career in academia, Dr. Payne served for a decade with Ducks Unlimited as its national director of conservation. His achievements include the establishment of its private lands program with agriculture and the expansion of DU's Mexican program to Central and South America.

Payne received his master's degree in aquatic ecology and his Ph.D. in wildlife ecology from Utah State University and is a graduate of the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University. He is a tenured professor in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the University of Florida.

Dr. Payne speaks throughout the nation on the value of the land-grant university system, notably with an address on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., to mark the sesquicentennial of the Morrill Act, and at an international symposium at Oxford University. He also publishes prolifically on op-ed pages about the science produced by land-grant universities.